THE

# OSCILLATOR

FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE AMATEUR RADIO RESEARCH CLUB AS WELL AS THE BEST INTEREST OF AMATEUR RADIO

VOLUME II | FEBRUARY, 1930 | NUMBER 2

## The A. R. R. C. Cup Contest

THE A. R. R. C. Cup is a trophy for the Sixth District Amateur. It is to be an annual contest and it is desired that the cup be awarded primarily for the best amateur station, the equipment of which has been constructed largely by the amateur himself. As the actual goodness of any station is attested only by its operation, the cup will be awarded to the Sixth District BEST ALL-AROUND AMATEUR STATION, the major portion of which is home-made as determined by the judges' consideration of the following features:

(a) Ingenuity displayed in design, construction and arrangement of the station.
(b) Over-all electrical efficiency of the transmitter.
(c) Consistent transmitting range throughout the year.
(d) Performance of the receiving equipment.
(e) Record of the operator's compliance with the Radio Communication Laws of the United States, and with whatever local cooperative regulations may be in effect in his community.
(f) The quality of the "sending" of the operator, particularly with regard to "readability," brevity, and judgment displayed in operating.
(g) The amount of traffic handled during the year preceding.
(h) The maintaining on the part of the entrant of a reasonable balance—as regards his work or school, his home, the A. R. R. L. or his local organization, and his community.

The following regulations shall govern this Contest:

1. Any licensed general amateur radio station in the Sixth Radio District shall be eligible except Hoover Cup winners, A. R. R. C. Cup winners or the judges of this contest.

2. One year shall be the basis for any year's award. To be eligible for any year's award, the station must be in actual existence on June 30th of that year, and its operation during the preceding year will be considered primarily with a view determining its actual value as an amateur radio station. There will be an award for period of July 1, 1929, to June 30, 1930, the presentation to be made to the successful entrant by the A. R. R. C. at the Pacific Division Convention in 1930. The cup will remain the property of the winner.

3. To enter a station in this competition the entrant must submit the following exhibits to the office of the Chairman of the 1930 Amateur Radio Research Club Cup Committee. (The new SCM of the Los Angeles Section will be appointed Chairman of the A. R. R. C. Cup Committee), not later than August 1, 1930:

(a) A manuscript of 100 to 1,500 words in length, containing a complete description of the station and its apparatus, including items (a) to (h) above.
(b) The station log.
(c) Four photographs of the station.
(d) Wiring diagram of the entire equipment with constants.
(e) Sketches of any unusual equipment, if desired.

4. The decision of the judges shall be considered final.

5. In order to make the contest general in scope, there must be at least 10 manuscripts submitted to the committee, so that it is up to all amateurs to see that plenty of men enter. Otherwise the contest will be postponed one year.

# THE OSCILLATOR

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5428 SOUTH BROADWAY, LOS ANGELES
SUBSCRIPTION RATE $1.00 A YEAR


## *Uphold Your Section*

*By* BERT SANDHAM

Upholding an ideal, or supporting the community that one lives in or his religion, is an inherent trait in the make-up of an American. Uuless he dislikes California, a resident usually has a verbal barrage ready for the certain type of "high-seated" easterner who comes to the Pacific slope and lays out western people and customs as little improvement over the red-skins that shot buffalo and other game here some years ago. We stand our ground and tell these invaders that "we are tickled to death that they don't like California, because almost everyone that likes California comes back to stay—and if everyone decided to stay we wouldn't have room for them all."

All sections of California have their virtues and their shortcomings, but somehow the average Southern Californian sees where his section is best suited to him and upholds it. The Northern Californian follows in line and backs up his portion of the state against the inroads of the antagonist from other parts —such is human nature. The aggregate of this sectionalism moulds Americanism, and an immense army of people that throw their lot into one and present power that other countries cannot fail to countenance.

So we go right on down the line in sectionalism from religion and commerce or whatever particular industry or virtue we have a hobby for, to the section competition in amateur radio. QST shows us, beyond a shadow of a doubt that California is the most active state in the Union in amateur radio. Its traffic totals outstrip those of any other state; it has more owners of WAC certificates, not overlooking progressiveness in politics.

Therefore it all comes down to a contest between the sections in this prominent sixth district—there being one section—all other things being equal—which must lead the district and automatically lead the entire nation. Just which section this is depends entirely upon its amateur residents—and is a barometer for the degree of interest displayed by them and whether or not they wish their section to be a leader.

## *President's Corner*

There seems to be a certain lack of cooperation from some members of the A. R. R. C. which should be overcome. This is your club, and it will only be as good as you make it. If you get behind it and its activities, you will make a good club of it, but if you sit back, and wait for someone else to do it, sometimes it doesn't get done. There is more to do than any one person, or even a small group of interested people can do. It is distressing, yet it is true, that the fellows who do things in the club, and who have put the A. R. R. C. in the lead, and kept it there, can be counted on the fingers of your two hands. Yet it is a good club. But can you fail to realize how much better it would be if you would each contribute to the growth, interest, and success of the A. R. R. C? It isn't hard, and it doesn't require a lot of time. But when your officers ask for some little bit of assistance from the membership for the members' own good, and it is not forthcoming, it makes the work doubly hard for the officers. So bear this in mind, and when some request is made for help, do your best to help make the A. R. R. C. a bigger and better club.

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The regular Quarterly A. R. R. L. Banquet will be held on March 6th, in the Masonic Temple, Pasadena, Calif. It is under the auspices of the Short Wave Club of Pasadena, and an interesting program and a good time have been promised. For reservations, or further particulars, get in touch with Mr. Ora F. Martin, W6AXE, or Mr. T. E. Nikirk, W6KA.

# *Who Paddles That Canoe?*

*By* W6AYC

Well, folks, here we are, wanting to take a boat or a canoe ride. Who doesn't? I think everyone that has had one ride wishes to be counted in on every one that is brought about.

Everyone has spoken about "rocking and tipping—boats or canoes"—but who has spoken of the paddler? If we don't have a means of propulsion, I am afraid, we can't go very far across the water. Its great to rock, and tip—a boat or canoe, it keeps the barnacles off—making a clean smooth bottom for the ship to ride on. If the bottom becomes clustered with moss and barnacles, it takes just twice as much power to move the same boat as before, thus causing the paddlers or rowers to exert themselves just twice as much. Why work so hard when there are easier ways of working.

Percy Maxim, recently stated in an article of his, "The A.R.R.L. boat is typically American." True it is—another example—somebody passed the buck. It is certain—the directory of Hartford—did a very poor piece of construction work—also have turned out to be very poor pilots, engineers, and perhaps scullers. The boat was constructed—at the first—on policies that fit in the picture fifteen years ago—perhaps were able to be carried a few years over—but will the same foundation suit the present day conditions???

Those who belong to the famous A. R. R. L. gang—are the rowers, second class, in that great boat—they elect the directors, who as I said before, act as engineers, and pilots, oftentimes getting down amongst the rowers to give them a hand, but when down amongst them, their hands never become dirty from the touch and motion of the oar—no, they act as straw bosses—hollering—"One, two, three, row—one, two, three, row."

Whoopee! Now the particular canoe, I believe Mr. Nichols spoke of—is the A. R. R. C. canoe. That particular canoe is made of the finest material and the crew are the best selected men. The reason that that particular canoe has gone far in radio is that it has been tipped, and in the course of its tipping it has men who know how to paddle when being tipped. At each stroke of the paddle—another stride toward the setting sun—their objective—better ham radio is accomplished.

So—Columbus was a boat rocker—yes, but his men brought the ship safely thru the storms, under his guidance, to the shores of the new found land. If one man gave up, someone had to do his share of the work—thus causing a handicap to the ship's progress. But the words, "Sail on, sail on" shall be remembered by nearly all of us, and to the amateurs who paddle this great canoe, it means sailing on to their goal.

This canoe can go no faster than the paddlers make it. Who greased the bottom of it for two years? It has ridden out the worst of storms—it has been battered against the rock-bound bottoms of many streams—but still the sturdy little craft goes on. Its paddlers know their game.

We get across streams, or up rivers—only by steady cooperation—with our minds, our strength, and our fellow-paddlers. Let's all cooperate, to make amateur radio the best yet. By leading—we shall have followers—and it is certain the A. R. R. C. canoe—leads far ahead of all other craft. If the "Canoe" continues to ride out the roughest waters, members will see new blood rise to ride in that canoe—thus fulfilling the demand for new paddlers. Let's all pull hard, and strike deep with our paddles—keep the good A. R. R. C. canoe in the lead.

Who are the paddlers—we are!! All right, let's paddle our canoe then!!

## *"Hot off the Air"*

Just a lil' gossip: W6BVS, W6DHM, and W6CTO are learning to dance, and not thru a correspondence course either, but with the ETA sisters as instructors or instructoresses. Lessons are free, but with no guarantee. Dit dit dit dit dit. I feel that a word or so abt the pupils' progress will not fall on closed ears. W6BVS seems to have grasped the idea all at once, the fact that he listens to BCL sets all day long might be the inspiration of such f. b. rythm. W6DHM has gone to Hollywood art. Seems to be a case of long hair rather than long skirts. Dancing is just his way of CQing for greater DX. W6-CTO has the form of the dancer down pat. However, if he could only handle a YL like she was a bug, his improvement wud be rapid. Gess Nuff Sed (better hams than I have been shot fer less.)

## *Chicago Radio Traffic Association*

5316 Harper Avenue, Chicago
January 30, 1930

Dear Ray Deo---

Regarding the note in the December Oscillator on WEM being the bottom of the 40 band---beg your pardon but they are 100 kc below the limit. Here is some dope you might run in the O. for the west coast gang:

Commercial stations operating above or below the amateur 7000 and 14000 kc bands are having more and more interference from amateur stations operating outside of the legal bands, especially on Saturdays and Sundays. WIZ, WEM, WIK, etc., are NOT the limits of the bands, but in every case are from 35 to 100kc outside the bands. Here is the correct procedure 7000-7300kc band-----log WIZ at 6965. 3kc, WEM 7400kc, UOK 7389kc, 14000-1410kc, band---log WIY 13867kc, WIK 13930kc, GBW 14440kc (plus or minus 4). REMEMBER THAT ON THIS BAND THE HARMONIC OF WEM WILL BE 14800kc, or 400kc below the limit of the band. WIY is ussually DC, and WIK RAC.

Now—divide the number of kilocycles between any two of these these commercials that are KNOWN, on your receiver dial by the number of dial divisions separating them, and you will know how many KC each point on your dial represents. Then calculate the limits of the two bands on your dial and you need never drop outside again. That's that.

This may or may not be news, if you have had it before just dump the following into the old W. P. B. Hi.

A chap in Auckland, N. Z. has heard 3500kc fone from W6ABF, W6BBJ, W7ABY, and W9?? Best time is 0600-0730 GMT, or 1000-1130pm PST. On 3500kc code he has logged: W6ABF, APA, BJF, BYH, CMY, CZZ, EQJ, FO, RJ, DLI, EOP, CTE, ANC, EVR, DQV, DFR, BCX, BDN, DCG, and W7ABQ, ADX, AGC, NT. QSL via W9FO if interested.

NDS, the USNR station at Chicago, will be pleased to work Naval procedure with any of the west coast USNR stations. Operating on 4045kc. Brass-pounding by W9ZN, W9FDY, W9-FDZ, W9FO. ZN is Lt. Cmdr. The others are RM 1c. ZZX.

Here are a few Chicago Radio Traffic Assn. stations who want to work west coast on fone: W9DJ, W9DJH, W9DGZ, W9GIY, W9FO.

Very 73 to the gang---
Art Bates, W9FO-USNR-

## *Last Minute Flash*

Word has just been received that Bert Sandham, W6EQF, and SCM of the Los Angeles Section, will leave about March 1st. as a member of the International Pacific Highway Expedition. This expedition is sponsored by the Automobile Club of Southern California, and is going for the purpose of blazing a trail, preparatory to building a highway from California to Central and South America. The expedition will carry short wave radio equipment, under the capable operation of W6EQF, and will be gone from three to six months. The frequencies to be used have not yet been assigned, but notice will be given of the call, operating, frequencies, and schedules, and it will be a good chance to boost your traffic totals, but **reliability** will be **paramount.** If you hear this station, and can help him move any traffic, you will not only be a big help to a fellow ham, but you will have taken an active part in making real history. More dope will be given on this expedition as it is received.

The duties of the SCM will be taken over temporarily, during the absence of Mr. Sandham, by Charles A. Nichols, W6ASM However, send your reports to Bert Sandham, 4508 Eighth Avenue, as usual, as W6ASM will get them there.

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## *Facts About W6ESA*

W6ESA, my station, is now official Broadcasting station for the A. R. R. L. Broadcasts are sent Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 5:00 P. M. on about 7100kc with a pure DC note. They are sent slow enough for all the gang to copy without trouble. After each broadcast I am always glad to work any of the fellows who are listening. I cover the band after each one. Just before the convention I rebuilt the whole station including the shack. I now have a transmitter using a pair of UX-210 tubes in a High "C" Hartley ckt with a pair of the large Rectobulbs and 4 mfds of filter condenser and 30 henries of filter choke coil. I have two masts for my Zepp antenna, one of which is about 65 feet high and the other about 45 feet high. DX has been and is now very good here. I also have a new QST screen grid receiver with a tuned R. F. which brings in everything very well. A monitor and frequency meter complete the station equipment.

Carson C. Taylor, W6ESA

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W6ATI is still trying to get the mills down on his MOPA.

# San Francisco Radio Club Banquet

A banquet was held in San Francisco, at the St. Germain Cafe, 60 Ellis, at seven o'clock Saturday evening, January twenty-fifth, sponsored by the San Francisco Radio Club.

An attendance of twenty-five guests made a successful venture into the wonderful dinner which was a regular course dinner.

W6AMP, President of the S.F.R.C. opened the evening with a short address, introducing each one present. After the dinner, talks were in full swing.

Mr. Smith, radio inspector, of the Sixth District office under the supervision of Mr. B. H. Linden, Radio supervisor, gave a talk on secondary standard equipment and the monitoring station, which is being established at Ft. Funston, San Francisco. He described the equipment so fully, and in such a way, that everyone understood it perfectly. A member present, at the time questions were in order, asked Mr. Smith, at what times would the amateur stations be checked for being off wave? Mr. Smith replied, "Perhaps at different intervals during the day and night." The member quietly joined in, "That's good, we won't be on at those times." Hi. Hi. He certainly had the right idea about steering clear of the radio inspector's iron hand. Hi. Hi. Mr. Smith stated that perhaps within the near future, the standard frequency staff of the monitoring station, would be able to calibrate and check frequency meters, which will be a great help to the amateurs of the sixth district.

R. G. Martin, manager of KUP, Hearst radio station, was called upon next, giving a talk on Doublet Receiving Antennas, which function so well at the Examiner's station. A full descriptive detail could not be made possible, without the aid of a blackboard, but instead, napkins of the St. Germain Cafe were used to a great advantage—something new for all when blackboards are lacking. A brief summary of the experiences and characteristics of the systems was given, also the formulas for obtaining the proper dimensions of the doublet and the feeder systems. Hope that the gang all benefit by using the "Doublet System" in the near future, as such a system certainly does increase signal strength, about double above a background which is decreased by the aid of the Transposed Feeder system.

Mr. Babcock, director of the Pacific Division, was present and gave a very interesting talk on relation of radio to time and light. Also stated a few incidental happenings at the San Jose Hamfest, recently held. All present now understand a wee bit more about what radio is! Mr. Babcock also gave a description of the antenna system he has been using for some time solving feeder systems, and lead-in's! It should work very nicely for hams who have to string their antenna lead-in's twenty or twenty-five feet within the house.

Miss Peiser, W6OK, member of the Sixth District Inspector's office, also attended, but could not be present for the entire evening's entertainment. We understand her reason for departing, but bet there is something else attached to the reason. Hi. Hi. We certainly enjoyed having her among us for the length of time she could stay. It evidently was her first Hamfest, and I think she was greatly disappointed because there were no other YLS present. What's the matter gang? Can't you bring an YL or two? Don't be bashful!

After all the speeches, and another round of the famous St. Germain beverage, coffee, 6AYC mentioned adjournment to visit KUP. He and W6WN were killed in the rush! What ho! After a jaunt up six flights of stairs, the gang were too tired to turn dials, or walk off with meters or other equipment. Hi. Hi. So AYC advises all parties giving entertainment in their shacks, to place the shack at the top of six or seven flights of stairs, that gang after walking all that distance, will be too tired to change the frequncy of the transmitter or settings on the dials of the receivers. Hi. Hi.

A code contest, copying a press broadcast on long waves was held. There was no winner—at least the medal hasn't been awarded yet. If one missed a word, he looked over the shoulder of the adjoining friend, who kindly consented to the idea. Hi. Success at last! Then came the cry for faster sending. W6WB gave them a round on the bug. A sending contest with a straight key also was held, but as per usual no one knows who copped first prize.

At two-thirty in the morning, all adjourned to Tait's for a bite to eat. Three tables were pushed together and the second banquet was in full swing.

[*Continued on page 6*]

## *A New Subcriber*

Flat A.
Gleneagle Mansions
Streatham, London.
January 24, 1930

The "Oscillator".
Los Angeles.
Gentlemen.

W9FO has sent me a copy of the "Oscillator". I wonder if you care to have a subscriber at such a distance. If so, please accept the enclosed dollar. Sometimes I might spend the winter in San Diego with relations. Therefore, I might at some future time present myself at one of your meetings.

If you don't want me I will go quietly. You will find me at the head of the G list in W9FO's Callbook. I help him as much as I can from this side of the Atlantic. Believe me to remain,

Yours faithfully,
F. T. Carter

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The A. R. R. C. now has a code class going. The class is held on Wednesday night at 7:15 P. M. at the club rooms, 5428 South Broadway. Come up, and bring your "cans." W6AEL and W6-BRO are in charge.

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We wish to express our appreciation and enjoyment of the very interesting talk and demonstration given recently by Mr. Don C. McRae, Chief Radio Engineer of Western Air Express, at a meeting of the club.

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## *San Francisco Radio Club Banquet*

[*Continued from page* 5]

Someone put syrup in W6AMP's coffee so he was forced to eat his waffle dry. Tsk tsk tsk! W6WB had a hard time keeping his eyes off the YLS that were present! Shouldn't do it Barney! Imagine the business Tait's had; all pounding on tables for service: W6EEI, W6ETR, W6AMP, W6WB, W6BIP, W6EEC, W6ATI, W6DEE, W6AMZ, W6EEG, W6DOT, W6WN and W6-AYC. The party finally broke up and ended on the corners of Ellis and Market streets, where a story-telling contest made the final lunge. The nature of the stories cannot be described in this issue —further information can be obtained by mailing a letter of request with a seif-addressed, stamped envelope to the writer.

A good time was had by all and a great deal of thanks is due W6AMP, and W6BIP and the committee who planned the little banquet and put it over with such a success. More power to the San Francisco Radio Club.

## *"QRM From The Radio Fellowship Club"*

W6BQQ has just installed an 852 for the RFC's traffic. We are wondering how successful he will be as he is a Copper. Hi.

W6ADP, who has a 210 job on fone, has worked or been heard in every state in the Union. It seems that he's good on DX. Ask W6ETA.

W6EFE has now obtained a call that he can keep for a while without fearing his QRA. Hi. I guess U all know Al.

W6CII wants to swap an 852 for a typewriter, says he wants to be a REAL OP. Let's hope he doesn't go any faster in code speed.

W6EKK has been off the fone band for some time, but his wife insists that he get back on as soon as possible as she is missing her evening dates with the OM's about town. Hi. If U have any stray parts of filter that U feel like donating to the Lil' YL, just bring them over to Tex. He won't object. Hi.

The boys from Hollywood are sure getting on the fone band, ask W6DQS es W6CUU? We might say that Leonard happens to be the shiek of the bunch. He likes these long tail dresses.

Where is W6BP? We haven't hrd that peanut bottle on in some time.

Fellows, if U want to have a good time, just call up any of the boys in the club and ask when the next open meeting is, then cum out and have a good time.

W6EHO will be glad to give you all the information you want as he's the ham that hit the bell too hard out at KMIC's the other night and put them off the air for a while.

W6OJ from Africa will give you all the dope on wild animals you want so come on over fellows and ask him. Hi, how abt it Clyde?

73's frm the gang,
**RFC**

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## *Personals*

Bert Sandham, W6EQF, has just received a new portable license, bearing the call of W6VO.

W6ERK is now active on 80 fone with a loop.

W6OK the Frisco YL was presented at the banquet but she slipped out about 9 o'clock to meet the one and only. Hi.

The A. R. A. started the year right with a bang-up meeting and admitted three new members, W6DTZ, W6EKC formerly of Bakersfield and W6EMX formerly of Sacramento.

# *Feedbacks*

*By* Ray Deo

ITS kind o' late, but we haven't forgotten it, nor will it be forgotten for some time. We are referring to that wonderful talk given by Captain MacMillan at a meeting of the A. R. R. C. last month. It was a world-beater, and the officers of the club surely stuck a big feather in their cap when they got such a speaker.

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It also goes to prove that there are a lot of hams, and others interested in such things who are not "regulars" at the meetings of the club.

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It goes to prove that if you really want a nice new set of Rectobulbs for your Xmitter, there is an easy way to get it without having to part with a lot of your hard earned "iron". There are lots of hams in Los Angeles and vicinity who would make good members of the A. R. R. C. Just get busy and get out after a few of them, and you will not only be helping the Membership Committee toward the success of the membership drive, but you will have a good chance of "copping" off a durn fine pair of "Rectojugs".

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So this is the way of the ham. Ask him to drop a card, and what happens? Nothing. But just write something that he doesn't agree with, and plenty happens. Several readers (yes, it has been found out that somebody does read this stuff) have written in regarding an article in the December issue among the "Feedbacks", regarding the location of WEM and WIZ in or near the 40 meter band. If you want to see what it said, look it up in your copy of the December issue. Anyway, we didn't say that they were the limits of the 40 meter band, but said to keep "well within the space between the two", so we are still right. But to settle the argument, and so that everybody will be happy, we hope that Hon. Editor will print elsewhere in this issue, the exact limits of the 40 meter, or more correctly the 7000Kc band, and also the frequencies of the two stations in question. Now that that's over . . . . . .

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We are pleased to hear that T. E. Nikirk, W6KA, is the new president of the Pasadena Short Wave Club. Congratulations, OM, and the best of success. And why not get your gang together and invade the A. R. R. C. some Wednesday night?

It is gratifying to see that the club is still going strong, and it appears that the Convention did not cause the slump which has been so noticeable in some other clubs after their conventions. The "gang" is more active than ever, and it was after the Convention that the biggest meeting ever put on at the club was had, and that was the night that Captain MacMillan was the guest of honor. There were well over a hundred present, though the exact number is not known. At any rate, it was a good turnout.

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W6FJ got a new Ford coupe, so it looks as though the radio would suffer. Or perhaps the air will profit. I dunno but what with his new fliv—pardon, Ford—when will he ever get on the air, if again?

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It is a penitentiary offense to call Bill Breuer, "Beezer", or even W6BZR now. He wants you to know that he is now—W6TE, if you please.

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W6ASM swore off women again. Wonder how long it will last this time.

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A gang from A. R. R. C. went to a meeting of the Long Beach club recently, and almost outnumbered them. And the funny part of it was that three out of four of the officers of the A. R. R. C. were there, and two committee chairmen. Almost a meeting of A. R. R. C. directors. But it speaks well for the Long Beach club, and everybody had a good time.

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Are you interested in the A. R. R. C. cup? Then why not send in your entry and get in on the contest? It isn't hard, and you have as much chance as the next one, so let's all get behind this contest and make a success of it. The A. R. R. C. is noted for finishing anything it starts, and this should be no exception. But it requires **your** cooperation to put it over. What are you going to do about this matter?

**famouS lasT wordS**

I haven't got any license yet, but I'll only operate a little while and nobody'll get wise.

My dues are paid. Are yours?

# National Products Rectobulbs

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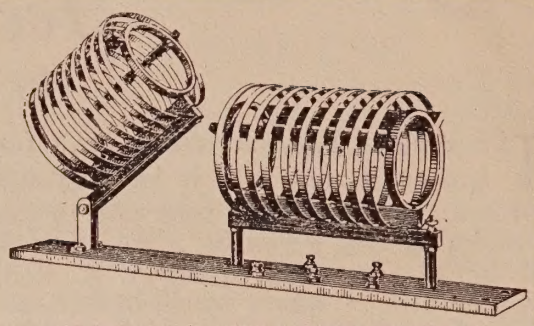

## SHORT - WAVE COILS

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